

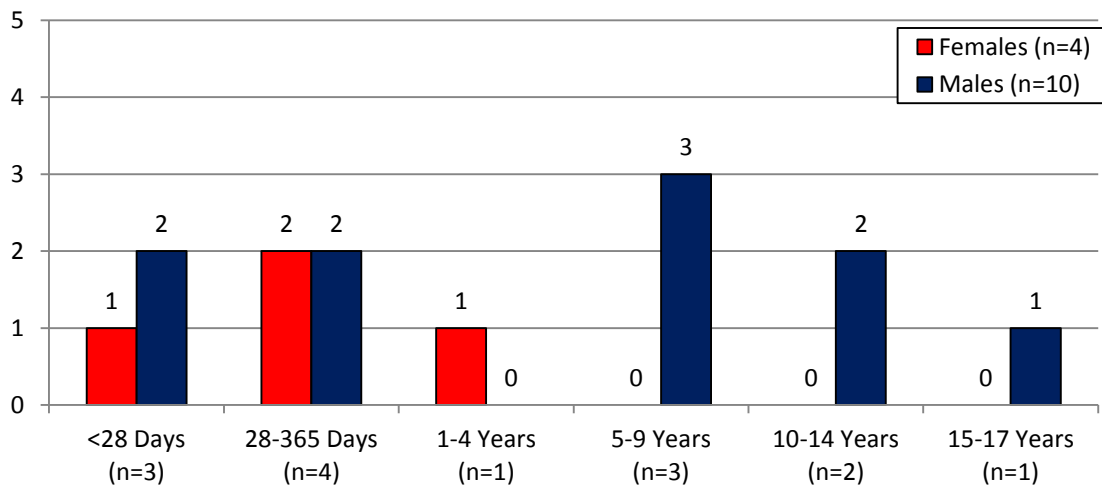


2011 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR YAVAPAI COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of Yavapai County. During 2011, there were 14 deaths among Yavapai County residents younger than 18 years of age. Males accounted for 71 percent of child deaths (n=10) and females accounted for 29 percent (n=4). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group, Yavapai County, Arizona 2011 (n=14)



Deaths were significantly over-represented among White, non-Hispanic children in this county. White, non-Hispanic children comprised 69 percent of the population but 86 percent of the fatalities (n=12). Hispanic children comprised 25 percent of the population in this county but only 7 percent of the fatalities (n=1). African American children comprised one percent of the population in this county and 7 percent of the fatalities (n=1).

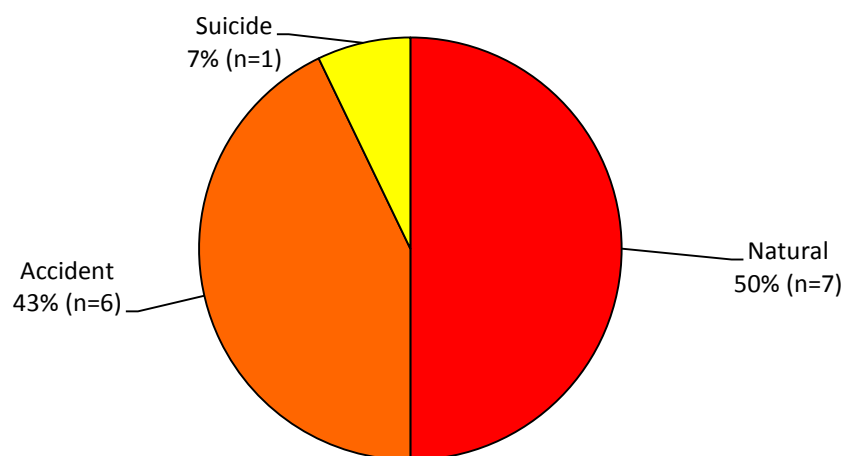
CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Cause of death refers to the injury or medical condition that resulted in death (e.g. firearm-related injury, pneumonia, cancer). Manner of death is not the same as cause of death, but specifically refers to the intentionality of the cause. For example, if the cause of death was a firearm-related injury, then the manner of death may have been intentional or unintentional. If it was intentional, then the manner of death was suicide or homicide. If it was unintentional, then the manner of death was an accident. In some cases, there was insufficient information to determine the manner of death, even though the cause was known. It may not have been clear that a firearm death was due to an accident, suicide, or homicide, and in these cases, the manner of death was listed as undetermined. Manners of death include:

- natural (e.g., cancer)
- accident (e.g., unintentional car crash)
- homicide (e.g., assault)
- suicide (e.g., self-inflicted intentional firearm injury)
- undetermined

Fifty percent of deaths were due to natural manners (n=7), 43 percent of deaths were due to accidents (n=6) and one child death was due to suicide. There were no homicides or deaths of an undetermined manner among Yavapai County child residents in 2011. Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Yavapai County, Arizona 2011 (n=14)



Four children died from medical causes and two died from prematurity. Four children died by motor vehicle crashes or other types of transportation, and one died by suffocation. There was 1 death due to sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) in Yavapai County in 2011 and one hanging death. There were no child deaths due to firearms,

exposure, fall/crush or blunt force trauma among Yavapai County residents in 2011. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Table 1. Deaths Among Children by Cause and Manner, Yavapai County, Arizona 2011 (n=14)				
Cause	Natural	Accident	Suicide	Total
Medical*	4	0	0	4
Prematurity	2	0	0	2
MVC/Transport	0	4	0	4
Suffocation	0	2	0	2
SIDS	1	0	0	1
Hanging	0	0	1	1
Total	7	6	1	14
*Excludes Prematurity and SIDS				

PREVENTABILITY

Child fatality review teams consider a child's death preventable if something could have been done (by an individual such as the caregiver or supervisor, or by the community as a whole) that would have prevented the death. The local child fatality review Team determined that 36 percent of the deaths among Yavapai County children could have been prevented (n=5).

During the review of each child's death, teams identify factors believed to have contributed to the death. Although the presence of a contributing factor typically led to the determination that a death was preventable, this was not always the case. For example, the team might have concluded that an unsafe sleep environment (e.g. infant left sleeping on a couch) was a contributing factor in an unexpected infant death. However, the team may not have had sufficient information (e.g. autopsy report, adequate scene investigation) to determine if the death could have been prevented.

In Yavapai County, drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for 6 deaths (43 percent). Lack of supervision was a contributing factor for five deaths (36 percent), and co-sleeping contributed to one death (seven percent). More than one factor may have been identified for each death. Table 2 shows the most common factors contributing to the deaths of child residents of Yavapai County.

Table 2. Contributing Factors for Deaths Among Children, Yavapai County, Arizona 2011		
Factor*	Number	Percent
Drugs and/or alcohol	6	43%
Lack of supervision	5	36%
Improper or no restraint use	4	29%
Excessive speed	3	21%
Driver distraction	1	7%
Co-sleeping	1	7%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN YAVAPAI COUNTY COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in Yavapai County and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 14 Arizona counties. During 2011, 14 children who were residents of Yavapai County died, and 794 children died who were residents of the other 14 Arizona counties. Yavapai County had a crude rate of 34.7 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a lower rate than the remainder of the state (49.6 deaths per 100,000 residents). Yavapai County had a slightly higher percentage of preventable deaths than the remaining counties. Thirty-six percent of the deaths among Yavapai County children could have been prevented (n=5), compared to 35 percent of child deaths in the remaining counties (n=275).

Medical conditions, such as cancer or asthma, were the leading cause of child deaths in Yavapai County (29 percent), as well as for the remainder of Arizona (42 percent). MVC/Transport deaths accounted for 29 percent of child deaths in Yavapai County residents but only 7 percent for the remaining counties. Prematurity accounted for 14 percent of child deaths in Yavapai County residents and 24 percent for the remaining counties. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for Yavapai County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, Yavapai County, Arizona 2011			
Yavapai County (n=14)		Arizona, Excluding Yavapai County (n=794)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Medical	29%	Medical	42%
MVC/Transport	29%	MVC/Transport	7%
Prematurity	14%	Prematurity	24%
Suffocation	14%	Suffocation	6%
SIDS	7%	SIDS	<1%
Hanging	7%	Hanging	3%

In Yavapai County, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidents (43 percent), which was much higher than accidental deaths in the remaining counties (19 percent, n=151). Yavapai County had a lower percentage of natural deaths (50 percent) than those in the remaining counties (65 percent). The percentage of suicides (7 percent) in Yavapai County was slightly higher than the remaining counties (5 percent). Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner for Yavapai County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Yavapai County, Arizona 2011			
Yavapai County (n=14)		Arizona, Excluding Yavapai County (n=794)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	50%	Natural	65%
Accident	43%	Accident	19%
Suicide	7%	Suicide	5%